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The political philosophy of Robert M. La Follette. As revealed in his speeches and writings. Compiled by Ellen Torelle (Mrs. L. B. Nagler) (Madison: The Robert M. La Follette company, 1920. 426 p. \$2.00)

The work of compilation resulting in this book has been well done. Gathered under twenty-eight chapter headings are brief extracts that set forth the gist of Mr. La Follette's opinions upon as many subjects. And no study of the politico-economic problems of the last quarter-century would be complete without reference to the views and work of the senior senator from Wisconsin. Whether one agrees with any or with none of his convictions, his influence upon public opinion and upon state and national legislation cannot be ignored.

Among the subjects listed are: primary elections, taxation, railroad regulation, labor, trusts, the tariff, money and banking, direct legislation, war, profiteering, the league of nations, agriculture, education, conservation, the press. The extracts under these headings are drawn from Mr. La Follette's public addresses, his messages as governor, his autobiography, his speeches in the senate, and from *La Follette's magazine*.

The struggle for primary elections began in Wisconsin as early as 1897. There followed within a few years the bitter fight resulting in the physical valuation and adequate taxation of railroads. These were the pioneer days and deeds of the progressive movement. The breach in the republican party of Wisconsin caused by these campaigns has not yet been healed.

Mr. La Follette regards these battles as merely the beginning of a fundamental struggle to maintain popular government. He said in 1913, "The fundamental problem as to which shall rule, men or property, is still unsettled." Again, he said in the senate in 1919, "In 20 years this government has not been representative of the public interests. I think this Government has been representing the interests of combinations and trusts and great aggregations of capital." Indeed, his view is so focused upon this problem that he sees all history through it. "There has, in my opinion, been only one great issue in all the history of the world. That issue has been between those who labor and those who would control, through slavery in one form or another, the laborers" (1919).

It was through this medium also that Mr. La Follette viewed the issues connected with the world war. He said in March, 1917, that the clamor for war in this country was "instigated and sustained by the money power and the subjugated press." He demanded that "we enforce our rights against Great Britain as we have enforced our rights

against Germany," or "withdraw our commerce from both" (April 4, 1917). In May, 1920, he said, "The declaration that we were fighting for democracy was the baldest, most wicked lie ever imposed upon a people. . . . This was a war of big business for bigger business. . . . It was a mean, sordid, mercenary war."

Mr. La Follette's campaign for reelection in 1922 will doubtless attract attention throughout the country. For those who wish to make an examination of his opinions, this volume will be an excellent guide.

ALBERT H. SANFORD

What really happened at Paris. The story of the peace conference, 1918-1919. By American delegates. Edited by E. M. House and Charles Seymour. (New York: Charles Scribner's sons, 1921. \$4.50)

In the winter of 1920-1921 a group of citizens of Philadelphia arranged a series of lectures by members of the American delegation at the peace conference. These lectures dealt with the history of the Paris conference and with the problems surrounding the restoration of peace. Syndicated by a group of newspapers, they were given wide publicity throughout the country and aroused much discussion. The present volume is a reprint of these lectures with some revisions and additions.

Each one of the lecturers took that problem with which he was especially intrusted at Paris. The result is a series of discussions by experts of the various European problems of the settlement and of the new arrangements in the former Turkish empire. To these are added chapters on the preparations for peace, on the organization of the conference, on the labor clauses of the treaty, on disarmament, and on the making of the league of nations. The chapter on the Atlantic fleet in the war, while interesting and valuable, is more military than diplomatic.

It is not too much to say that this is one of the few indispensable books for students of this latest phase of American policy or of recent world history. The account does not teem with "revelations," but that does not greatly hamper its usefulness. For many of these "revelations" hitherto given out have proved to be but isolated bits, torn from the context that makes them really valuable. What this book does give is a clear and sober analysis of the problem of peace, of the spirit and aims of the American delegation, and of its difficulties, failures, and successes. It is only through such a general account as this that the "inside history" of the conference can be approached with any security.

One general thread seems to run through all the chapters. The treaty of Versailles is not an ideal peace—indeed many, if not all, of the